

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-13, without prejudice, and add new claims 14-26 as follows.

Claims 1-13. (Cancelled).

14. (New) A method of providing an accounting service in a mobile communication system, comprising the steps of:

accessing a chargeable functionality of said communication system by a user, by authenticating said user by a authentication/authorization server, and authorizing said access of said user by said authentication/authorization server; and

indicating, by said authentication/authorization server, a specific accounting server out of several possible ones dependent on the user, wherein

said accounting server is physically separated from said authentication/authorization server.

15. (New) A method according to claim 14 wherein said authentication/authorization server is in a home network of said user.

16. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said chargeable functionality is a service provided in a visited network of said mobile communication system.

17. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said chargeable functionality is a service of said mobile communication system.

18. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said accessing step is performed by sending an authentication/authorization request message from an authentication/authorization client to which said user is currently attached to said authentication/authorization server which replies by sending an authentication/authorization answer message to said authentication/authorization client, and wherein said answer message includes said indication of said specific accounting server for said user.

19. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein said authentication/authorization server directly indicates said specific accounting server to said authentication/authorization client, which specific accounting server is handling said user and keeps a corresponding account.

20. (New) A method according to claim 14, comprising the further step of requesting an accounting for said chargeable functionality from said indicated accounting server by said authentication/authorization client.

21. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein, during said accessing step, said authentication/authorization client receives a ticket indicating that said user has been granted to access said chargeable functionality, and said ticket is sent to said accounting server.

22. (New) A method according to claim 21, wherein said accounting server checks whether accounting for said user is to be started.

23. (New) A method according to claim 21, wherein said ticket contains at least one of the information of the group of: to which user it belongs, when the access was

granted, for how long the access was granted, and from which client the access was granted.

24. (New) A method according to claim 21, wherein said ticket is signed by the authentication/authorization server so that it is verified to the accounting server that the authentication/authorization server really has made the ticket.

25. (New) A system for providing an accounting service comprising means adapted to perform a method according to claim 14.

26. (New) An accounting server device comprising means adapted to perform respective steps of a method according to claim 14.